

Message Text

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LIMDIS - PARIS ALSO FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST

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TAGS: NATO, NAC

SUBJECT: WASHINGTON NATO SUMMIT PREPARATIONS: CANADIAN
VIEWS

REFS: (A) USNATO 4271 (DTG 261829Z APRIL)
-- (B) USNATO 4268 (DTG 261709Z APRIL)

1. ON APRIL 27 CANADIAN POLITICAL COUNSELOR NUTTING
INFORMED RPM DIRECTOR HE WOULD ATTEND DEPARTMENT'S MAY 2
MEETING OF NATO EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS
SUMMIT ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

-- WE TOOK THE OCCASION TO EXPRESS OUR DISMAY WITH THE
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LINE TAKEN BY CANADIAN PERMREP HARDY AT THE APRIL 25
PERMREPS' LUNCH ON THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE WASHINGTON
NATO SUMMIT TO THE SSOD AND PARTICULARLY WITH THE
HARDY VIEWS AGAINST PUBLIC PROMINENCE FOR THE LONG-
TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM (LTDP). NUTTING CLAIMED THAT
WHILE HE HAD SEEN HARDY'S INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE
APRIL 26 PERMREPS' PRIVATE MEETING ON SUMMIT PREPARATIONS,

HE HAD NOT YET SEEN HARDY'S REPORT OF THAT MEETING NOR HIS READOUT OF THE PREVIOUS DAY'S PERMREPS' LUNCH. HE REQUESTED FULL DETAILS INCLUDING INDICATION OF WHICH ALLIES HAD SUPPORTED AND WHICH HAD OPPOSED THE CANADIAN INTERPRETATION GIVEN IN BRUSSELS. WE AGREED IT WOULD BE USEFUL ONCE NUTTING HAD GATHERED ALL OF HIS FACTS TO HAVE A CONVERSATION ON DIFFERENCES WHICH MIGHT EXIST BETWEEN THE WASHINGTON AND OTTAWA VIEWS ON WHAT TO EXPECT OF THE SUMMIT AND THE LTDP, AND HOW PUBLIC AFFAIRS ASPECTS SHOULD BE ORGANIZED.

2. WE ALSO TOOK THE OCCASION TO NOTE THAT AT THE APRIL 26 PERMREPS' MEETING THE CANADIAN DID NOT SPEAK OUT IN FAVOR OF THE US SUGGESTION THAT THE PRESIDENT'S LUNCH ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE SUMMIT BE RESTRICTED TO HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT. WE SAID THIS WAS SURPRISING IN LIGHT OF TRUDEAU'S OFT-SPOKEN PREFERENCES FOR THIS KIND OF INTIMATE MEETING--A PREFERENCE SPECIFICALLY REPEATED AT THE LONDON NATO SUMMIT. NUTTING DID ALLOW HIMSELF TO EXPRESS SURPRISE AT THIS NEWS AND SPECULATED THAT THE CANADIAN POSITION ON THIS WOULD SOON BE CLARIFIED. VANCE

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